Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health
Weeks Building, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-1601

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
           Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Monica Simon

DATE: August 6, 2004

RE: Arrests and Incarceration Before and After CRT Services

This is the second in a series of brief reports regarding change in criminal justice involvement for recipients of community-based services in Vermont. The first report focused on adults served by Adult Outpatient Programs for individuals who are experiencing emotional, behavioral, or adjustment problems[1]. The current report focuses on adults served by Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. As in the previous report, the current report examines rates of criminal justice involvement during the year before a treatment year and rates of criminal justice involvement during the year after a treatment year. This analysis was conducted for three treatment years (FY1999, FY2000, and FY2001), and the results were averaged.

Two pages are attached. The first page includes a graph and a table that compares arrest rates for the years before and after each of the three years in which CRT services were received. The second page includes a similar graph and table that compares incarceration rates for the years before and after each of the three years in which CRT services were received. Both of these analyses involve measuring the amount of overlap between a data set that includes basic demographic information about recipients of CRT services and two criminal justice data sets. The CRT data were provided by designated community mental health agencies. The arrest data were provided by the Vermont Department of Public Safety. The incarceration data were provided by the Vermont Department of Corrections.   Because the mental health and the criminal justice data sets used in this analysis do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the number of people who appeared in both the mental health database and each of the two criminal justice databases.

As you will see, there were statistically significant decreases in arrest rates for young adults (18-34), overall, and for young men in particular. There were also small but not statistically significant decreases in arrest rates for most other age/gender groups.   The results for incarceration rates were similar. There were statistically significant decreases in incarceration rates for two groups: older adults (50-64), overall, and older men in particular. There were also small but not statistically significant decreases in incarceration rates for most other age/gender

groups. If this pattern is found to be repeated over a larger number of years, the statistical significance of the results will increase as the evidence accumulates.

The next report in this series will focus on adults served by Substance Abuse programs at community mental health centers in Vermont.
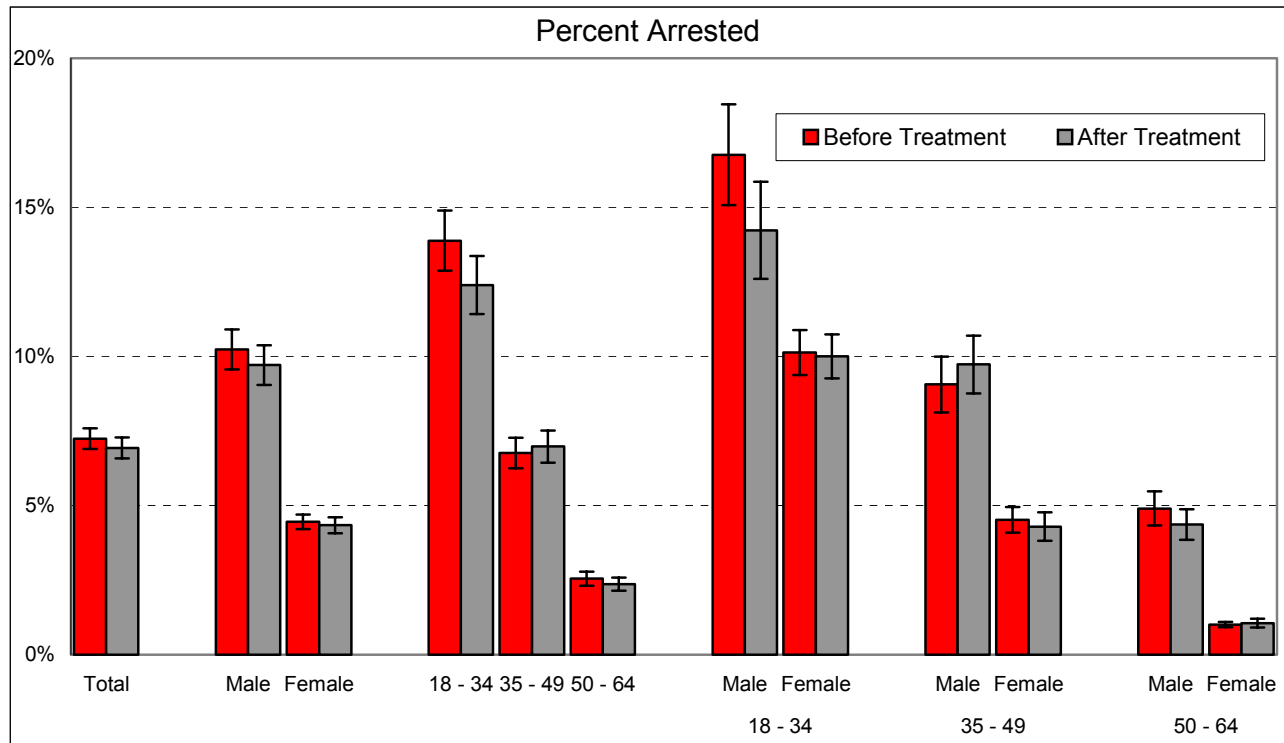
We look forward to your suggestions for further analysis of these data, your comments, and your questions to pip@vdh.state.vt.us or 802-241-2638.

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[1] Arrest and Incarceration Before and After Adult Mental Health Outpatient Services (July 23, 2004) (www.ddmhs.state.vt.us/docs/pips/2004/pip072304.pdf).

Arrests
Community Rehabilitation and Treatment Clients
Before and After Treatment
By Age and Gender, Vermont: FY1999 - FY2001

Percent Arrested

	Average Number Served	Arrested				Change in Arrest Rate
		Before Treatment		After Treatment		
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	2,775 ± 6	201 ± 10	7.2% ± 0.3%	192 ± 10	6.9% ± 0.3%	0.96 ± 0.07
Male	1,338 ± 4	137 ± 9	10.2% ± 0.7%	130 ± 9	9.7% ± 0.7%	0.95 ± 0.09
Female	1,437 ± 4	64 ± 4	4.5% ± 0.2%	62 ± 4	4.3% ± 0.3%	0.97 ± 0.08
18 - 34	667 ± 3	93 ± 7	13.9% ± 1.0%	83 ± 7	12.4% ± 1.0%	0.89 ± 0.10 *
35 - 49	1,296 ± 4	88 ± 7	6.8% ± 0.5%	90 ± 7	7.0% ± 0.5%	1.03 ± 0.11
50 - 64	811 ± 3	21 ± 2	2.5% ± 0.2%	19 ± 2	2.4% ± 0.2%	0.93 ± 0.12
18 - 34 Male	377 ± 2	63 ± 6	16.8% ± 1.7%	54 ± 6	14.2% ± 1.6%	0.85 ± 0.13 *
Female	290 ± 2	29 ± 2	10.1% ± 0.7%	29 ± 2	10.0% ± 0.7%	0.99 ± 0.10
35 - 49 Male	640 ± 3	58 ± 6	9.1% ± 0.9%	62 ± 6	9.7% ± 1.0%	1.07 ± 0.15
Female	657 ± 3	30 ± 3	4.5% ± 0.4%	28 ± 3	4.3% ± 0.5%	0.95 ± 0.14
50 - 64 Male	321 ± 2	16 ± 2	4.9% ± 0.6%	14 ± 2	4.4% ± 0.5%	0.89 ± 0.15
Female	490 ± 2	5 ± 0	1.0% ± 0.1%	5 ± 1	1.1% ± 0.1%	1.05 ± 0.17

*Indicates difference is statistically significantly different at the 0.05 level of significance.
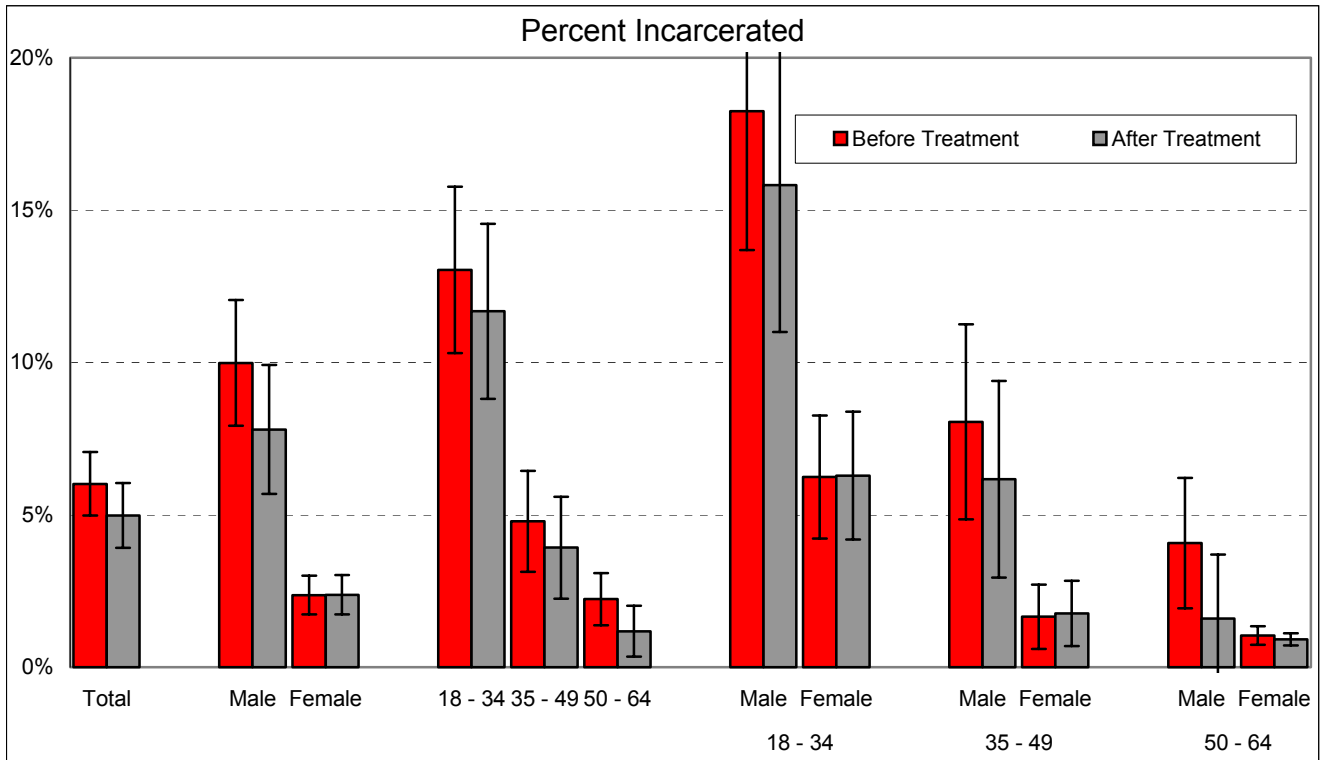Analysis is based on data provided to DDMHS by community mental health centers and the Department of Public Safety.
Because these databases do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the number of individuals shared across data sets (with 95% confidence intervals).

Incarceration
Community Rehabilitation and Treatment Clients
Before and After Treatment
By Age and Gender, Vermont: Average FY 1999 - 2001

Percent Incarcerated

	Average Number Served	Incarcerated				Change in Incarceration Rate
		Before Treatment		After Treatment		
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	2,721 ± 13	164 ± 28	6.0% ± 1.0%	136 ± 29	5.0% ± 1.1%	0.83 ± 0.23
Male	1,305 ± 9	130 ± 27	10.0% ± 2.1%	102 ± 28	7.8% ± 2.1%	0.78 ± 0.27
Female	1,416 ± 10	33 ± 9	2.4% ± 0.6%	34 ± 9	2.4% ± 0.6%	1.01 ± 0.39
18 - 34	655 ± 5	85 ± 18	13.0% ± 2.7%	77 ± 19	11.7% ± 2.9%	0.90 ± 0.29
35 - 49	1,262 ± 10	60 ± 21	4.8% ± 1.7%	50 ± 21	3.9% ± 1.7%	0.82 ± 0.45
50 - 64	804 ± 7	18 ± 7	2.2% ± 0.9%	9 ± 7	1.2% ± 0.8%	0.53 ± 0.42 *
18 - 34 Male	371 ± 4	68 ± 17	18.2% ± 4.6%	59 ± 18	15.8% ± 4.8%	0.87 ± 0.34
Female	284 ± 3	18 ± 6	6.2% ± 2.0%	18 ± 6	6.3% ± 2.1%	1.01 ± 0.47
35 - 49 Male	619 ± 7	50 ± 20	8.1% ± 3.2%	38 ± 20	6.2% ± 3.2%	0.77 ± 0.50
Female	643 ± 7	11 ± 7	1.7% ± 1.1%	11 ± 7	1.8% ± 1.1%	1.07 ± 0.94
50 - 64 Male	315 ± 4	13 ± 7	4.1% ± 2.1%	5 ± 7	1.6% ± 2.1%	0.39 ± 0.55 *
Female	488 ± 6	5 ± 1	1.0% ± 0.3%	4 ± 1	0.9% ± 0.2%	0.88 ± 0.32

*Indicates difference is statistically significantly different at the 0.05 level of significance.
Analysis is based on data provided to DDMHS by community mental health centers and the Department of Corrections.
Because these databases do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the number of individuals shared across data sets (with 95% confidence intervals).